

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH TO REQUIRE THAT MEDICAL CARE
PROFESSIONALS PROVIDE INFORMATION ON PRENATAL SCREENING AND
TESTING FOR DOWN SYNDROME TO ALL PREGNANT WOMEN.

1 WHEREAS, one in every six hundred ninety-one babies in the
2 United States is born with Down syndrome, accounting for about
3 six thousand babies every year; and
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5 WHEREAS, prenatal screening is an important part of
6 prenatal care for pregnant women and their families; and
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8 WHEREAS, in many cases, pregnant women do not receive all
9 applicable information on the available prenatal screening and
10 testing options, including screening and testing for the three
11 types of Down syndrome known as trisomy 21, translocation, and
12 mosaicism; and
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14 WHEREAS, the national abortion rate for fetuses diagnosed
15 with Down syndrome is estimated to be ninety per cent; and
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17 WHEREAS, section 321-331, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
18 authorizes the Department of Health to adopt rules to ensure
19 that all pregnant women are offered appropriate information and
20 services relating to prenatal screening and diagnosis; now,
21 therefore,
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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
24 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
25 Session of 2015, the Senate concurring, that the Department of
26 Health is urged to require that applicable medical care
27 professionals provide all pregnant women with information on
28 prenatal Down syndrome screening and testing, risks associated
29 with that screening and testing, and information on where to
30 obtain support if screening and testing reveal that a fetus is
31 diagnosed with Down syndrome; and



BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Health, the Chairperson of the Hawaii Medical Board, and the President of the Hawaii Medical Association.

OFFERED BY:

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